

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 195323

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, IAEA

SUBJECT: JUNE BOARD OF GOVERNORS - DESIGNATION ISSUE

1. REPEAT OF STATE 140152 QUOTE: FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT USDEL SHOULD DELIVER IF LIST OF DESIGNATIONS FOR BOARD MEMBERSHIP SUBMITTED BY CHAIRMAN OMITS, AS WE EXPECT IT WILL, SOUTH AFRICA FOR REGION OF AFRICA. STATEMENT NOW INCORPORATES CHANGES SUGGESTED BY MISSION IN REF B. QUOTE MY DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT THE MEANING OF ARTICLE VI.A.1. OF THE STATUTE IS CLEAR AND UNAMBIGUOUS. THE BOARD IS OBLIGED TO DESIGNATE ON THE BASIS OF OBJECTIVE TECHNICAL CRITERIA (INNER QUOTE) THE MEMBER MOST ADVANCED IN THE TECHNOLOGY OF ATOMIC ENERGY INCLUDING THE PRODUCTION OF SOURCE MATERIAL IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS IN WHICH NONE OF THE AFORESAID IS LOCATED. (CLOSE INNER QUOTE) IT SHOULD BE STRESSED THAT MEMBERS SO DESIGNATED DO NOT SPEAK FOR, ACT ON BEHALF OF, OR REPRESENT OTHER MEMBER STATES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS. WITH RESPECT TO AFRICA, THE EVIDENCE PERMITS NO DOUBT THAT SOUTH AFRICA, IN TERMS OF THE RANGE OF ITS NUCLEAR FACILITIES, ITS PRODUCTION OF SOURCE

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MATERIAL, AND THE SIZE OF ITS NATIONAL BUDGET COMMITTED TO NUCLEAR ENERGY, IS BEYOND QUESTION THE MOST ADVANCED COUNTRY. THE STATUTE DOES NOT PROVIDE OTHER CRITERIA FOR

DESIGNATING OR EXCLUDING COUNTRIES, AND IN THE VIEW OF MY GOVERNMENT IT WOULD BE A VIOLATION OF THE STATUTE TO INTRODUCE NON-TECHNICAL CRITERIA WHICH EXCEED THE TERMS OF

REFERENCE TO WHICH WE, AS SIGNATORIES OF THE STATUTE, HAVE COMMITTED OURSELVES. FOR THOSE REASONS, THE US GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THE BOARD HAS NO CHOICE UNDER THE STATUTE BUT TO DESIGNATE SOUTH AFRICA TO THIS SEAT. MY GOVERNMENT IS ON RECORD IN THIS AGENCY AND IN MANY OTHER FORA INCLUDING THE UN AS BEING TOTALLY OPPOSED TO SOUTH AFRICAN APARTHEID. THAT POSITION IS UNCHANGED AND UN-AFFECTED BY ANY DECISION WE TAKE HERE. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, WE AS A NATION ARE COMMITTED TO THE RULE OF LAW, AND THAT PRINCIPLE EXTENDS TO OUR PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING THE IAEA. WE ARE FACED HERE WITH A CLEAR CASE WHICH HINGES ON TECHNICAL QUESTIONS. IN DEPARTING FROM OBJECTIVE CRITERIA INTO POLITICAL OBJECTIVES, WE PUT THIS ORGANIZATION AT RISK. MEMBERS OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY ARE HARMED WHEN SUCH AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT AS THE IAEA STATUTE IS BREACHED BY THE VERY BOARD THAT IS CHARGED WITH LIVING UP TO ITS PROVISIONS.

END QUOTE.

2. DELEGATION SHOULD CALL FOR VOTE ON THIS ISSUE, VOTING FOR SOUTH AFRICA AND AGAINST ANY OTHER AFRICAN STATE FOR DESIGNATION TO AFRICAN SEAT. DELEGATION SHOULD SEEK MAXIMUM SUPPORT FOR THIS POSITION, ESPECIALLY FROM DELEGATIONS TAKING THIS POSITION AT JUNE 1977 BOARD. IF, HOWEVER, DELEGATION'S HEAD COUNT REVEALS SERIOUS DEFLECTION FROM LAST YEAR'S VOTES FOR DESIGNATION OF SOUTH AFRICA,

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AND MISSION BELIEVES CALLING FOR VOTE IN THESE CIRCUM-STANCES WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE, DELEGATION SHOULD SEEK ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS. CHRISTOPHER END REPEAT
OF STATE 140152 VANCE

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